



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work.
Our hands.

Worship Services:

Sundays 9:00 am

Interim Pastor

Pastor Len Hoffmann

815-975-4740

prlen.hoffmann@yahoo.com

Church office hours:

Mon., Wed., Fri 6:00-11:00 AM

Parish Administrator

DJ Scott

prshadmin@gmail.com

Church Address:

PO Box 234 229 S First St

Pearl City, IL 61062

Church Phone:

815-443-2215

Building Hours:

The building will only be open
when the office is open

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Ever Loving, Caring Always"



Time After Pentecost

Pastor Len Hoffmann presiding

October 12, 2025

Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers.

Please join us for a time of fellowship after the worship service in Luther Hall. Refreshments will be provided.

Serving Us Today

Presiding Minister: Pastor Len Hoffmann **Acolytes:** Weldon Snetcher **Organist:** Karen Bremmer **Lector:** Theresa Snetcher **Assisting Minister:** Theresa Albers **Greeter:** Lois Hunsaker **Ushers:** Larry & Kathy Albrecht **Counters:** Janet Ferguson & Lynda Palmer **Sacristan:** Kathy Williams, Kris Liebenstein, and Nancy Trampel

P Pastor

C Congregation

L Lector

A Assisting Minister

Introduction to the Day

It's a miracle! Multiple miracles! The waters of holy baptism have healed us. The body and blood of Jesus in holy communion have made us clean. We have died with Christ and been raised with him. For all this we have returned to offer thanks. From this place we are sent on our way rejoicing to share the good news.

PRESERVICE MUSIC & WELCOME

TEMPLE TALK

Kathy Hillmer

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

C Amen

P Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence is kept for reflection)

P Merciful and loving God,

C we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

P Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

C Amen

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CHILDREN LEAVE FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL IN LOWER LEVEL

GATHERING HYMN

"I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"

ELW 860

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God, your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole and well in body and spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Naaman, a Syrian general, suffers from leprosy. In this passage Elisha miraculously cures his illness, but only after Naaman realizes, with the help of his servants, that he also needs healing for his pride. This foreign general then acknowledges the sovereignty of the God of Israel.

L A reading from 2nd Kings, the fifth chapter.

L Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from a skin disease. Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his skin disease."

When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin disease? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me." But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God and would wave his hand over the spot and cure the skin disease! Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. But his servants approached and said to him,

“Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, ‘Wash, and be clean’?” So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean. Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, “Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel.”

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 111

L Let us say the Psalm responsively

L Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

C **Great are your works, O LORD, pondered by all who delight in them.**

L Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

C **You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.**

L You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.

C **You have shown your people the power of your works in giving them the lands of the nations.**

L The works of your hands are faithful-ness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.

C **They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.**

L You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever; holy and awesome is your name.

C **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice this have a good understanding. God’s praise endures forever.**

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Though Paul is chained as a prisoner, the word of God is never shackled or confined. Timothy is encouraged to proclaim that word of freedom in an honest and upright life as well as in his teaching and preaching.

L A reading from 2nd Timothy, the second chapter

L Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with

eternal glory. The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful—he cannot deny himself.

Remind them of this, and warn them before the Lord that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW Page 142

(Please stand as you are able)

GOSPEL

Luke 17:11-19

Jesus' mission includes making people clean again. Unexpectedly, a Samaritan healed of leprosy becomes a model for those who would praise and worship God and give thanks for God's mercy.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

P On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten men with a skin disease approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus’s feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? So where are the other nine? Did none of them return to give glory to God except this foreigner?” Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

L The Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to you, O Christ

(Please be seated)

SERMON

REFLECTION SONG

“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil”

ELW 713

(Please stand as you are able.)

APOSTLES' CREED

ELW PAGE 105

(Please be seated.)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

(A brief silence.)

A Gracious God, you lead your people to faith. Remind the church that your word flows into the world. By your Spirit, teach the church to share the word of God for the sake of the world. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Creating God, you provided cleansing and healing waters for Naaman. Water the earth's lands in parched places. Restore clean water to all communities, and guide the work of all who advocate for safe and abundant water supplies. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Righteous One, you bring justice and wholeness throughout the world, and your righteousness endures forever. By your spirit, guide leaders of all nations and lands to right relationship with you and with one another. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Merciful God, you know the needs of your people. Show mercy to those suffering in the world. Comfort those in need of your healing (*especially*). God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Life-giving God, you free us by your word. Help us, by your Spirit, to be transformed to live your word of freedom honestly and uprightly in our teaching, preaching, and serving. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Welcoming God, remember all who are confined to their homes and health care centers from our community and congregation. Today we pray for *Shirley Goldsmith, Carol Garnhart, Richard Brinkmeier, Lori Miller, Janis Kampmeier, Mary Ellen Aurand, Verda Werkheiser, Carol Byers, Gina Boop, Jerry Harnish, Ron Fluegel, Louise Cuccio, Donna Freedlund, and Connie Melville*. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Holy God, thank you for the witness of those who have died in faith (*especially*). Guide us to trust in the baptismal promise of resurrection in Christ. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

P We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

PEACE

- P** The peace of Christ be with you always.
C And also with you.
P Let us share signs of peace with one another.

OFFERING

(Please stand as you are able.)

OFFERING PRAYER

- A** Let us pray.
A Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING (SUNG)

ELW Page 152

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (SUNG)

ELW PAGE 153

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise. When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life. Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen.

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

LORD'S PRAYER

ELW PAGE 154

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

Communion instruction – as we gather for Holy Communion, you will come down the center aisle, receive the bread and cup, and return by the side aisle. Wine is the dark liquid and grape juice is the light liquid in the center ring. If you wish to receive gluten free, it is available. Please ask. If you wish to only receive a blessing, please come forward with your arms crossed. This is a time where all God's people find unity.

RECEIVING OF HOLY COMMUNION

P The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C Amen

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, **+** bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG

“How Great Thou Art”

ELW 856

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C Thanks be to God.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright
2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg For-
tress Liturgies Annual License #28059

PEARL CITY HEALTHY WOLVES FOOD PROGRAM

Provides backpacks filled with nutritious meals and snacks for school aged children K-12 for the weekend. **We are currently sending 40 backpacks each week.** The cost of supplies runs about \$8.00 per backpack, per week. **Donations of financial support are needed.** Please contact Theresa Albers if you have any questions. TO DONATE ONLINE: <http://www.stjohnspearlcity.org/giving> Scroll down to these instructions: **On-line Giving:** Click [here](#) to give now in the form of a credit or debit card to St. John's. This is a safe, secure and quick method to give to our ministries from anywhere at any time. On-line giving offers you the ability to do a onetime transaction or set-up a recurring transaction. This option allows members and non-members alike to give to the ministries of St. John's. You will be able to select "Healthy Wolves" for your gift designation.

Mark your calendars for this year's vaccine clinic at St. John's. FHN will be at St. John's on Sunday, October 19th from 10AM to Noon. Adults under 65 can receive a \$50 Fluzone trivalent vaccine and those 65 and over can get a \$100 Fluzone high-dose vaccine. There will be no out-of-pocket expense if you are covered by Medicare Part B or a Medicare HMO accepted by FHN. Be sure to bring your card with you! Immunizations may be paid for by cash or check and you can use your receipt for reimbursement from your health-insurance carrier. No other insurance coverage can be accepted at this clinic. Per government regulations, no MEDICAID cards can be accepted at these clinics. Everyone must present a photo ID to receive an immunization. For more information, call FHN Community Services at 815-599-7437.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Interim Pastor

Pastor Len Hoffmann

815-975-4740

prlen.hoffmann@yahoo.com

Parish Administrator:

DJ Scott

E-mail: prshadmin@gmail.com

Church Office

815-443-2215

Box 234

229 S First St

Pearl City, IL 61062

Mon., Wed., Fri. 6:00-11:00 AM

St. John's Website

www.stjohnspearlcity.org

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, October 12, 2025

9a Worship

10a Stewardship/Outreach committee meeting

10a Memorial/Finance committee meeting

12p Luther Hall rented

6p 4-H meeting

Monday, October 13, 2025

6p American Legion Auxiliary meeting

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

10a Worship & Music committee meeting

3:15p Kids Klub meeting

6p Bible Study

7p Church Council meeting

Thursday, October 16, 2025

3:15p Healthy Wolves backpack packing

Friday, October 18, 2025

8a Grace Meal prep

Sunday, October 19, 2025

Genesis 32:22-31 Psalm 121

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 Luke 18:1-8

Confirmation: Confirmation began on Sunday, October 5th with our first meeting of the confirmation year. Each family should have received an email with all dates and information for the year except Acolyting which will be finished as we get closer to the summer in 2026. If you did not receive the email, please let me know so that I may get you that information. Our study this year is the Apostles' Creed, the Bible, and the church service. Please remember to bring your Bible with you to each meeting and try to be on time so we may finish in a timely manner. We will continue to meet the first and third Sunday of each month right after the church service upstairs in the Youth Room. If you have any questions, please contact Shawn Kuhlemeier.

Sunday School: Sunday School has official started and we are meeting every Sunday this year with a new curriculum from Spark House. Each week the children will be learning stories from the bible which will include stories, activities, crafts, and bible verses. It looks to be a fun filled year with wonderful lessons. We invite any child to Sunday School ranging from 3 year olds to 5th grade. We are still in need of some volunteers to teach a lesson for a Sunday of your choice. If you feel the calling to help us out, please speak with Shawn Kuhlemeier, Morgan Scharping, Theresa Snetcher, or Grace Heimerdinger-Baake.

Women's Gathering News ...

*Women's Gathering has dish cloths for sale. They are \$1.50 each. Contact the church office or Lynda Palmer if you are interested.

*Prayer Shawl Outreach will meet on Sunday, November 2nd. Start a shawl/quilt or work on one already started. Someone will be available to help.

*The NW Conference WELCA 2025 Fall Gathering will be at First Lutheran Church in Freeport on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24th. Continental breakfast and registration at 8:30 a.m. The program will be from 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. The program is Walking the Ancient Path. First Lutheran will be sponsoring this program so no registration fee (free will offering). Open to all women of the ELCA and guests. Return flyer form (on bulletin board) by October 16th. Also, there will be lunch at Big O's. if you want lunch (pay on your own.)

*The next bible study will be on Tuesday, October 21st at 9:45 a.m. - refreshments (served by Kathy Hillmer and Doris Kness) 10 a.m. - bible study led by Kathy Hillmer - A change in the bible study "Where two or three are gathered: Flourishing in relationships. Relationships that sustain us" 11 a.m. - ? Sit N Sew - bring a paint shirt - we will be working on painting Christmas ornaments. Chili will be served. Invite others.

Beginning Wednesday, September 24th through November 12th, Pastor Len will be hosting a bible study every Wednesday at 6PM. The focus of the bible study will be the Gospel of Matthew. Matthew was a tax collector turned apostle and evangelist who tells the message of Jesus to his community and ours. It's not too late to join. Just let Pastor Len or DJ know you are coming so we can have materials ready for you.

The Kids Klub is back at St. John's! This monthly adventure is designed for Kindergarten through 5th grade students and is sponsored by Pearl City area churches. It offers a safe and supportive environment where children can explore, make new friends, and learn valuable skills. It will start Wednesday, October 15th from 3:15-5:00 PM and continue the third Wednesday of each month. To register contact Pastor Roger Bronkema at rbronkema18@gmail.com or 815-291-6261!

The Chancel Choir started up in September! If you enjoy hearing the choir singing and think you would like to join, come and join the group! The next rehearsal date is Sunday, October 12th at 8:15 AM and the next time they will sing at worship will be on Sunday, October 19th. They will also rehearse at 8:15 AM prior to singing on the 19th! You don't have to be a great singer, you just have to want to have some fun singing and enjoy praising Our Lord in song! If you have any questions, talk to Kathy Hillmer!

Check out the White Pines show still available this fall. "Scrooge the Comedy" on December 10th. **This show has a limited number of tickets available** and a deadline about a week before the show. Get signed up in the lobby and turn your money in at the office or in the security box by the office door.

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Lector
Oct. 19	Dennis Downs family	Jim & Leann Heimerdinger	Lori Kempel
Acolytes		Tech Support	
Lucy Voss		Diem Gronewold	



Happy Birthday!

Dinah Shore Tyler Wichman Lori Kempel Larry Albrecht
Greta (Heimerdinger) Shimon Bob Ditzler Jordan Johnson

Grace Meal News. . .

A special thank you to everyone who helped with the September Grace Meal: Kooper Kampmeier, Kolton Kampmeier, Dennis Downs, Kris & Marion Eden, Randy & Sandy Faust, Janet Ferguson, Grace Heimerdinger, Jim Heimerdinger, Cathy Hoffmann, Lois Hunsaker, Joan & Marvin Klatt, Doris Kness, Deb Mather, Judy & Rollin Nelson, Wayne Niehaus, DJ Scott, Steve Roiland, and Marge Roiland. We served a total of 262 meals, 37 deliveries, and 225 curbside pickups.

The October Grace Meal will be on October 19th. To reserve your meals for that day, contact St. John's Lutheran Church by Thursday October 16th (815-443-2215). Meals can be picked up between 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on the 19th. The menu for the October Grace Meal will be pork chops, baked beans, applesauce Jell-O salad, and carrot cake.

The Grace Meal Committee would like to thank the congregation for stepping up and making financial donations to help the great ministry continue serving meals each month. If you think you can help prepare or serve a meal talk to Kris Eden, Marge Roiland, or Lois Hunsaker!

*Women's Gathering invites the congregation/guests to eat out together. The next one will be on Sunday, November 2nd at 11:30 AM at the Imperial Palace in Freeport. Please sign up in the lobby by October 27th! Car pooling will be set up!